CALIFORNIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF, RIVERSIDE



Message from Mal

As we enter into the final months of preparing for the WASC accreditation, I'm reminded once again how many wonderful services we have available here at CSDR for deaf and hard of hearing children.

Our curriculum and resources are focused on bringing language to our students, regardless of where they are in their current reading level. The one avenue that we know is open to our students is visual learning, so we make the most out of supplying them with an environment that is filled with learning opportunities both in and out of the classroom. The more language a child has, the better he or she can learn new concepts.

One of the reasons we emphasize signing on campus at all times is because we want our students to be able to benefit from "incidental learning" experiences. That means when they are playing sports they will be able to see what the coaches are saying to referees, other players, and to the fans. Students can see conversations in the hall during passing period or learn appropriate social skills from seeing how our



staff interacts with one another. Even as we break ground on our new cottages, we are secure in the knowledge that we have planned space for visual presentations, computer labs, and access to video phones for the students. Everything at CSDR is made into a learning experience. This type of environment basically removes any of the communication barriers that students may have experienced in other See Mal, page 2

Holiday Card Winner is CSDR Student By Staff Writer

This is the third year in a row that a student from CSDR has won State Superintendent of Public Schools Jack O'Connell's annual holiday card design competition. O'Connell selected Jeremy Warshaw's design from several entries submitted by students at other schools.



Warshaw's design will appear on approximately 3,000 of O'Connell's holiday cards and will be sent to recipients all across the United States.

CSDR SHAKEOUT!

By Staff Writer

The Great Southern California ShakeOut was a week of special events featuring the largest earth-quake drill in U.S. History, organized to inspire Southern Californians to get ready for big earth-quakes and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes.

An enormous earthquake is an inevitable part of our future, and the ShakeOut Drill was CSDR's chance to practice what to do when it happens. At 10:00 a.m. on November 13, 2008, all CSDR employees and students took part by performing the Drop, Cover, and

Hold On – a quake-safe action designed to protect lives from falling furniture and flying objects than can become projectiles during ground s h a k i n g. Everyone participated, including our Directors!



Business Manager Norm Sharlein

Mal (cont'd from page 1)

venues and allows them to grow socially as well as academically.

At CSDR the students learn about deaf culture which helps them to take pride in who they are and understand that there are no limits to what they can become. This sense of belonging increases the student 's self-confidence and ability to interact with the hearing community as adults. They are better able to sell themselves during a job



interview and have the self-esteem to face the obstacles they will undoubtedly encounter in a hearing world.

As 2008 draws to end, I am thankful for all the resources we are able to offer our students and the dedicated staff who work so hard to deliver CSDR services. I hope that you all have a wonderful and safe holiday. We are looking forward to an exciting new year.

CSDR CAN!

By Staff Writer

Have you ever been told, "you can't do this" or "you can't do that?" Well, if there is one thing we know, it's that CSDR CAN!

That 's why when it came time to establish a new community organization to support the school we happily dubbed it "CSDR Community Alliance Network (CAN)!"

The organization is made up of representatives from CSDR, local businesses and organizations, and parents. Together this group will work to earn funds to support our Superintendent and various projects/needs within the CSDR community.



Results from the CSDR CAN food drive

Our first project was to organize a food drive for CSDR families who had been identified by the counseling department as needing a little extra help this holiday season. Members
of CSDR CAN
gathered food
within their
businesses
and organizations (Altura
Credit Union,
Crime-Free
Partners, and
the Riverside
Marriott) and

brought it to CSDR.

Other members (President Greg Decker, Vice-President Gayle McThomas, and Board Member Ben Jauregui from IEHP) joined in

partnership with the Riverside Ralphs Grocery Store to solicit donations from Ralphs' customers as they entered the store.

We are happy to report that we gathered enough food

so that 17 families had more than two full boxes of goodies for the holidays! We were also able to gather some clothing for the CSDR Rack and toys for the families who needed them.



CSDR CAN President Greg Decker and Vice-President Gayle McThomas at Riverside Ralphs

The CAN group is very committed to supporting CSDR in every way possible. We'd like to thank the board members of CSDR CAN for hitting the ground running with this new organization.

If you would like more information about CSDR CAN, please contact Deborah Berzins at dberzins@csdr-cde.ca.gov in the CSDR Outreach office.



Middle School Dorm

By Jasmine Goolsby, Dorm Counselor



October 21, 2008 was quite a busy day for CSDR 's middle school dorm. It was not exam day or anything like that, but it was the annual Rubidoux Bowl which is middle school's version of Homecoming. CSDR 's social hall was converted into a full blown carnival with games and prizes of all sorts. Students could play anything they wanted to when they paid with their tickets. There was basketball, fishing for prizes, and the bean bag toss and of course every year 's favorite, the lollipop tree where kids get a prize based on the color at the end of the lollipop.

For every game the students played they could either win points, a soda, or a stuffed animal. Once the students accumulated all their winnings they were escorted to Rubidoux 3 which had been transformed into a prize shop. The prizes this year were amazing thanks to the wonderful donations made by CSDR 's friends and family. There were basketballs, soccer balls, nerf

balls, candy, dolls, teddy bears, clothes, hats, Hannah Montana memorabilia and more! Students were so excited that staff had to encourage them to hurry up so they could go watch the middle school football and volleyball teams.

After the games, all the students rushed back to the dorms to get all dazzled up in their fanciest clothes for the

Rubidoux Bowl dance. At the dance the students enjoyed a meal of chicken, baked potatoes, salad and a delicious cake for dessert. When dinner was over Middle School's Homecoming King and Queen were announced. The whole room applauded as Christopher Morton and Dominique Yeboah were crowned. The two were quite surprised and thankful to be given such an honor! The rest of the evening students danced and played games until it was time for their parents to take them home. Reluctantly and a bit tired, students went home to a well-deserved restful weekend.

October was not over yet and Rubidoux knew that there was still more fun to be had... so what else would they do but throw a big Halloween bash!

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cont'd from previous page



What a Party! All sorts of characters appeared. Students came up with everything under the sun this year for costumes...Marilyn Monroe, Jason, some were prisoners, twin jesters, a fairy or two, and the monster from Scream. Even the Joker from 'The Dark Night' came!

With so many creative costumes it was hard to select the winners for the costume contest, but the staff voted and there were some pretty happy monsters. AJ Quinonez, who was the wolfman, Alexa Ontiveros, who was the Joker, Catalina Garcia, who was a fairy, and Ashley Barrios, who was Chilidrina from Spanish cartoon television, won prizes for having the best costumes.

After enjoying some gooey goblin juice and frighteningly

delicious cupcakes, the students played some spooky games. Their favorite was to find the 'm urderer' which is where students would mysteriously lay on the ground and the student who was 'it' had to play detective and find out who was responsible for making this happen. Students enjoyed the music and games until their parents arrived. The Rubidoux staff and students had so much fun and sure next October will be even better!





Meeting the Mayor

By Nicolette Obidos, Elementary Special Needs Teacher

Nicolette Obidos and Sam Crawford's special needs class went on a community-themed field trip to downtown Riverside. The class spent the afternoon visiting the courthouse, fire station, post office, and Mayor Ron Loveridge 's office! The Mayor took a

minute out of his busy day and posed for a picture with the class, with Riverside under construction in the background! Thank you Mayor Loveridge!



Shasta News By Geoffrey Knight, Dorm Counselor

Halloween was indeed spoooooky this year for the Shasta Area Dorm! The boys and girls went to Lake Elsinore to get scared out of their wits. The haunted house they went to was actually a haunted stadium. The stadium is Diamond Stadium, used by the Lake Elsinore Storm baseball team, a farm team for the San Diego Padres.

Upon arriving at the haunted stadium we waited in line in anticipation. Once the students entered the gate, they had two choices on which part of the haunted stadium they wanted to enter. They made

the right decision because, wow, did they get the daylights scared out of them!

At the end, they all came out onto the playing field via the player dugout breathing a sigh of relief and with smiles on their faces. We were all impressed with the amount of work that went into the production. It was topnotch, professional, and very artistic. There was a lot of creativity in the attempt to scare people effectively. Who knows what they will come up with next year.



Premier Service Bank's Annual Golf Tournament

By Farley Warshaw, Director of Residence

On October 27, the Friends of CSDR sponsored a team of four CSDR staff to participate in the Premier Service Bank's Annual Charitable Golf Tournament at Victoria Country Club in Riverside. The team of Mary Hanlon, Tim Hile, Ken Clark, and Farley Warshaw represented the Friends of CSDR

in a best-ball format tournament. The purpose of this event is to support the bank 's charity program.



Last year the bank donated 15K to CSDR through Friends of CSDR. The CSDR team had a lot of fun and the hospitality was first class. After the outing, dinner was served at Victoria Clubhouse. We were happy we represented Friends of CSDR and we thank them for giving us an opportunity to support the

Premier Service Bank 's charitable program.

Did you Know that California School for the Deaf, Riverside has a Rideshare Program?

If you are interested please contact Caryn Cooke in Transportation or Judy Madrid in Business Services for more information.

Reasons to Rideshare





Saves money. Sharing the ride with other people can save employees thousands of dollars a year on gas, parking, vehicle maintenance and insurance expenses.

Relaxes the ride. Sharing the trip creates a less stressful commute and promotes healthier lifestyles for employees.

It's flexible. Employees can use alternative transportation options as often as every day or as seldom as once a week.

Reduces absenteeism and late arrivals. Carpooling provides an affordable and reliable way for your employees to travel to and from work.

Cleans the air. Carpooling reduces the level of vehicle emissions that pollute the air we breathe.

Decreases parking demand. Ridesharing employees reduce the number of vehicles at your worksite, freeing up valuable parking spaces.

First-Grade Fright and Fun By Tammy Bervel, Elementary Teacher

Tammie Bervel's first-grade class had a frightfully fun time performing the hit play "Green Witch, Green Witch" for Karen Shannon's Kindergarten classroom on Halloween. The acting was "spook"tacular and the audience was thrilled to the bone!!!

Afterwards, the two classes shared pumpkin cookies and treat bags. It was a "boo"tiful time together.



Tammie Bervel's class also meets with Susan Johnson's fifth-grade class every Friday morning for "Buddy" time. Students are paired into buddy groups and take turns sharing literature and doing fun related activities.

On Halloween, students worked together to decorate small pumpkins.



P.E. Joins in Red Ribbon Week

By Regan Anders, P.E. Teacher

I'm delighted to share two wonderful stories about our elementary students and what they did in our P.E. classes during Red Ribbon Week. During the Character Counts program, Jason Coleman and I gave a presentation to our students at the Red Ribbon assembly about smoking and how to say "no" to peer pressure in many different ways.

First, we set up eight different stations relating to Red Ribbon activities that focused on motor skills. We gave the students two days to experience all of the eight stations. These stations were designed for Kindergarten to fifth-grade. Each station had a theme related to saying "no" to drugs. For example, Station 2 was "Turn Away from Drugs" and they did an agility line. Station 3 was "Don't Toss Your



Life Away " where they tossed dice and performed an activity. Station 5 was "Push to be Drug Free." Here they colored in bubble letters of Drug Free and wrote five things that they could do instead of taking drugs. They wrote one thing they could do on a red strip that was folded to look like a link and placed with the other links to form a paper

chain. Station 6 was Walk Out on Drugs and they practiced walking on plastic mounds as they pretended to stomp on



the different drugs. Station 8 was "Skip over the Drugs." Here they practiced skipping over each kind of drug

labeled on the ground. Our students learned these eight themes promoted during Red Ribbon Week while they had the opportunity to practice and improve their motor skills.

Another one of the highlights that I have seen the students doing during Red Ribbon week was helping each

other with the activities. One of my students was struggling to understand the concept of a few of the activities. I had tried for weeks to help her gain this insight. It took another student about 10 minutes to work with her and show her the activity and finally the struggling student shouted, "I GOT IT!"

Also, fourth-grader Jalena Cochran dedicated her time to interact with Francisco Garcia, who was in her group for all 8 stations. Francisco is a mainstreamed student who has transferred to our regular Physical Education class from an Adaptive Physical Education program last year. When I

was checking the students ' progress at each of the stations I came upon Jalena signing to Francisco, who was interacting with Jalena with areat enthusiasm. Jalena asked Francisco what he really likes to do by gesturing and role-playing instead of asking him a direct question. Francisco dropped his jaw and answered five things he would enjoy doing instead of taking drugs. Jalena smiled and encouraged Francisco by working together and helping him write down the five things he suggested he' d like to do.

This was a great example of how "inclusion" in regular Physical Education classes holds some pretty exciting rewards for some students. They gain experiences, language development (communication skills), social skills, and increase their confidence for facing obstacles by interacting with their peers.



Mock Election Teaches Real Lesson By the Fifth-Grade Team



Students encourage people to vote

Studies Unit (Governing a Nation), students learned about the three branches of government and the voting process.

The fifth-graders made campaign posters for both candidates (Obama and McCain) as well as ballots for voting. Most students from the Elementary Department came to the fifth-grade classes on Super Tuesday, November 4, and voted for their favorite candidate.

What a great learning experience!



PSWT Fundraiser By Nicolette Obidos, PSWT President

CSDR'S PSWT (Parents and Staff Working Together) holds various fundraising events throughout the year for Teacher Appreciation Week, held each May.

We recently had a new event called the Harvest Festival. It was very successful and attracted about 300 people.

We'd like to thank all of our many volunteers who donated their time and put so much effort into the event.

We were able to raise money for Teacher Appreciation and at the same time our families had a great time!

CSDR students pose with special guest "The Lion King



CHARACTER COUNTS! and Red Ribbon Week

By Kelly Gunderson, CHARACTER COUNTS! Coordinator

CSDR celebrated Red Ribbon Week from October 20 to 23. This event has an interesting history.

There was a young man named Enrique "KIki" Camarena. He was a hard working man who worked through college years. He also served in the Marines and he decided to become a police officer. Enrique

wanted to make a difference, so he joined the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). He was sent to work undercover in Mexico to investigate a major drug cartel. It was believed that the officers in the Mexican army, police, and

government were involved with the illegal drug dealings. On February 7, 1985, 37- year - old Camarena was leaving his office to meet with his wife for lunch and five men showed up at his side and shoved him into a car. One month later, Camarena's body was found in a shallow grave. He was tortured to death.



CSDR students signing, "Say no to drugs"

In honor of Camarena's memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges of satin. Parents began to form coalitions and they took Camerena as their model and embraced his belief that ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. These coalitions de-

cided to adopt the symbol of the red ribbon. The first National Red Ribbon C a m p a i g n w a s organized in 1988.

CSDR is happy to join in the battle against drugs. Thank you all for making Red Ribbon Week a true success!

Homecoming Heroics By David Hamilton, Athletic Director

If you didn 't see the Homecoming football game you missed the biggest upset in recent years! The CSDR Boys ' Varsity team beat CSD-Fremont 12 to 2.

Since 1990, Fremont had won 16 out of 18 football games so they came to our turf assuming they would leave victorious. Coaches, fans, and families thought a CSDR defeat was inevitable. Even from my view on the forklift, 40 feet in the air with the best view of the

field, I could clearly see the Fremont Boys were much bigger than ours and a CSDR win would be a statistical improbability.

However, our CSDR Boys played hard throughout the whole game. CSDF could not match our intensity, could not find the right ammunition, and could not figure out a way to stop us. With this win the "traveling trophy" that is awarded to the winners of the CSDR vs. Fremont games will now find its

home back on CSDR soil. By the time you read this, however, the trophy will be resting comfortably back at CSDR.



Special thanks to our Homecoming Committee for their tireless effort to make this homecoming a great success.

CSDR Athletes Shine!

By Staff Writer



CSDR Athletics is proud to announce that Jason Coleman has been selected as "Co-Coach of the Year" for the Deaf National Football team. Coach Coleman led his team to a major turnaround from a winless record and 12 total points last season to 3 wins scoring 214 points this season. Please join me in recognizing his accomplishment and congratulate Coach Coleman for this honor. In addition, last year there

were 558 offensive total yards as compared to this season's 2,896 yards! Way to go Cubs!

We also want to recognize five CSDR football players who received the honor of being selected as first-team all-stars for the Deaf National.

The five selected players are:



Kyle McDonald –

Offense Lineman



Luis Estrella – Wide Receiver



Derek Keels – Wide Receiver



Ryan Baldivez – Defense Linebacker



Galvin Drake – Quarterback

Congratulations to our football team for an exciting season!

Partnerships in Action—Barnes & Noble! By CSDR Staff Writer

ASL storytelling at Barnes and Noble happens every month on the first Wednesday of the month.

November 's storytellers were: Angela Trahan & Reagan Anders.

Location: Barnes and Noble at Tyler Galleria

Date: January 7

Time: 7pm (on the dot!)

Sponsored by Friends of CSDR



Please note: This event is designed to promote literacy in children and is primarily for elementary aged and younger children and their family members. This event is not an activity for high school/college ASL students earning points for deaf events.

Fifth-Grade Poetry

By Susan Johnson, Elementary Teacher

Mrs. Johnson's fifth-grade class focused on poetry during the month of October and did some poetry writing about seasons, people, places, and animals. Students learned that poetry is a way to express their thoughts and feelings using creative language, lots of description, and imaginative writing. Enjoy the following poems written by our fifth graders.





"Thrill"

By Dylan Lesti

Wind in my hair and the sunshine on my cheeks Rides go up and down Just as life



"Pumpkins"

By Mavrick Fisher

Pumpkins are round,

Pumpkins are round and smooth,

Pumpkins are round, smooth, and great

for Halloween!

A Veteran's Day Visit By Karen Shannon, Kindergarten Teacher

On November 7, Kindergarten learned about Veteran 's Day. A Marine from Camp Pendleton, Jeremiah Shannon, came to CSDR to be interviewed by kindergarten students. He was asked questions about his job and when asked how long he works, the students were surprised to find out that he works 24/7 including holidays and weekends. He used the globe to show them the many places that he has been and he explained that his job was to keep them safe and to help protect them from bad people. When the interview was finished they shared cupcakes and he painted their faces with real camouflage paint that he brought with him. It was an exciting time and the students were able to thank him for his service.



Marine Jeremiah Shannon with CSDR Kindergarten class

Construction Update

By Jeremy Warshaw, High School Student

I interviewed many people and learned a lot on what 's happening around the campus. The Director of Residence, Farley Warshaw, is a liaison to the Department of Education for CSDR. His responsibility is to inform the community about the construction at CSDR.

The campus is 55 years old and has many outdated buildings. Plus, many of the buildings do not meet the needs of today's students. New facilities will allow us to use better technology and give students a better place to learn and live. The construction will replace the old buildings and modernize about 80% of current buildings for the next 12 years. Prior to this year, the first construction was the completion of the Middle School, followed by remodeling in the Elementary and High School. Last spring, the construction of water pipes, a chiller plant, and a water tank began. These projects are expected to be finished this winter.



Jeremy Warshaw

The following construction projects are scheduled or underway:

- Multi- purpose Activity Center (MAC) completed by the summer of 2009
- New Cottages the first phase completed by the summer of 2009
- New Career & Technical Education building (CTE) CTE will begin tin the spring of 2009
- The Main Gym- the construction of the gym and swimming pool will begin in the fall of 2009
- The cafeteria will be expanded with 120 more seats and will serve up to 320 students. The plan is still in progress.

There are other projects planned, but they have not been approved as they are still in the concept phase.



Superintendent Grossinger at the helm

Girls Volleyball Team Travels to Arizona By Montana Murphy, High School Student

The girls 'varsity volleyball team recently went to Arizona for a tournament. They left on a Friday morning. It was about a seven hour road trip. The girls were talking and having a great time along the way.

They stopped at Starbucks for a break. After that, they arrived at ASDB- Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind. The volleyball girls watched the ASDB volleyball game and then, they had a really good volleyball practice.

The next morning, the CSDR girls had a game against ASDB and the matches were tied. The girls did a great job serving and hitting, the ball.

The next game was against PDSD- Phoenix Day School for the Deaf and CSDR lost. After that, they had two games against hearing teams. Both the teams beat CSDR, but they were good games. At least

the volleyball girls really had fun.

When the girls finished the tournament, they spent the rest of the afternoon playing volleyball with their friends. At night, they went to the mall in Tucson with some Arizona friends.

On Sunday morning, the girls woke up, packed, and then left for home. They all had a lot of fun at ASDB and made some wonderful new friends.

"C" Booster Car Raffle By Greg Visco, President



Raffle Tickets - \$5

Available in Outreach Office (Elem. Rm 203)

Or contact one of the following:

qvisco@csdr-cde.ca.gov manderson@csdr-cde.ca.gov ezornoza@codie.org

Dorm Life and Activities By Cody Cola, High School Student

Hi, CDSR students and faculty! The dorm is a great place to try all different kinds of activities. There are various inspiring activities that deaf students can take pleasure in after school hours!

For example, on Monday, our students have free time which they use to do things like homework, visiting other dorm students, using the computer or videophone, or playing basketball.

On Tuesday, the dorm students will do their homework or go to sports practices like football, cheerleading, and volleyball. Every day, at 5:40 p.m., the students go to the cafeteria to eat their dinner and chat with their

friends. After dinner, they enjoy themselves by going to the Cubs! The Cubs store is a concession stand that serves drinks and snacks. Afterwards, bedtime by 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday is the most fun! The dorm students love this day because they are permitted to go off campus and do awesome activities like go to Target or the Galleria Tyler mall. But they also have the option to do homework, use the computer, or play board games in their living room.

Thursday is movie night. The dorm students join together at the boys ' or girls ' dormitory to watch movies. What a fun thing to do! Before the movies start, they are permitted to go to the Cubs store to buy snacks to munch on while watching the movie.

Friday is a busy a day! Dorm students heading home must pack their stuff in the morning and leave their bags in front of their patio. They do this because they have to be prepared to leave for home after school at 1:55 p.m. Depending on the season, others may be preparing for a football, volleyball, or other game, or for cheerleading. (Let's wish them the best of luck!)

Special thanks go to our staff members and dorm counselors for participating after school to make CDSR an exciting and welcome place to be for all the dorm students!

Daycare in ASL Now Available By Marilyn Pacheco, Lead Teacher

The Carollyn E. Wylie Center is a nonprofit organization providing services for children from birth to eighteen years of age and their families in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. The Center has now added daycare services specifically for deaf children and children of deaf adults from birth to six years of age.

The program is open throughout the year, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Activities Include learning centers where children can play with sand, homemade play-dough, arts and crafts. All are offered within an ASL/Deaf Culture environment. Your child will enjoy a day filled with story-telling, drama, and language development.

If you are interested in enrolling your child, please contact our program manager, Nancy Hakala. Or if you prefer, come by and visit our classrooms to see for yourself how

learning takes place!

Our contact information is listed below:

Wylie Center

7177 Potomac Street

Riverside, CA 92504

(866) 764-2170 - VP

(951) 784-0021 - Voice



Pachappa Bowl

By Kenny Adrews, Pachappa Bowl Coordinator

This year the Elementary Dorm hosted the first Pachappa Bowl. It was like a Homecoming Celebration. We had 8 game booths. They were: Basketball Free Throw, Football Throw, Air Hockey, Clown Face (balls tossed into holes), Pitfall (balance beam), Lucky Numbers, Ring Toss and the Jr. Lotto.

The students really looked forward to this fun, exciting time. Our

Supervisorong Counselor, Kaveh Angoorani, announced that all students would get four free tickets for the games! The students were so excited! The most popular games were the Jr. Lotto and the Lucky Numbers, but the students disliked the Ring Toss game because it is so hard to win points!

In addition to the games, we had our cheerleading team perform for everyone. They did an awesome job!! Way to go, Cubbies Cheerleading Team!

We wanted to thank Rubidoux Area for donating a lot of prizes. We also wanted to thank some volunteer staff for helping us out during the Pachappa Bowl. It was so successful that we plan to have another Pachappa Bowl in 2009!

The Week the World Heard Gallaudet

By: Ruthe-Ellen Auman, High School Student

The morning of November 17 brought us a mystery assembly as we, all the high school students, attended a special presentation in the Social Hall. We were all wondering "Who's the special guy?" when the Leadership Class got on the stage and told us the speaker's background. They mentioned that he attended Gallaudet and met his wife there. He graduated in1966. All of his three kids attended Gallaudet as well. He's currently retired. He lives in Vermont. His nephew is Mal Grossinger, believe it or not! This bright and bold man's name is Phil Bravin.

Phil took over on the stage and talked about Gallaudet University. We all started to probably think, "Oh no... not another speaker about Gallaudet". But then, it wasn't just Gallaudet he was going to talk about. He mentioned

a few facts about our deaf history and how Gallaudet University was established. He got the audience involved too. It was pretty obvious that we were all curious why he was here to speak.

Shortly after he introduced the deaf history and Gallaudet University, he mentioned the deaf protest back in 1988, Deaf President Now (DPN). What was the real purpose of it? Why did they do that? It wasn't just because the university students wanted a deaf President at Gallaudet. It was also about deaf people's rights. What happened at Gallaudet could affect the whole deaf community throughout the world!

During the protest, Phil was on the Board of Trustees. He was there from the beginning to the end. When Elisabeth Zinser, the current President, decided to resign, the Board of Trustees

had to pick someone to select the deaf president. And guess who they picked for that job? Phil Bravin. He was humbled by the offer and realized that a lot of responsibility was on him. Everything and everyone was depending on him. Sure, the responsibility was really tremendous, but he felt truly honored. He was the one who had to work with the Board of Trustees and the student leaders: Greg Hilbok, Tim Rarus, Bridgette Bourne-Firl and Jerry Covell.

Finally, Mr. Bravin chose I. King Jordan as the next President of Gallaudet. Everyone was so thrilled. But then, another protest 2006 demanded a "Better President." Phil explained that the protest in '88 was for deaf rights nationwide, but the protest in '06 was just an issue inside Gallaudet 's campus. We now realize the difference between those protests.